



City of Salem Parks and Recreation
Sports Office – Division
925 Union Street
Salem, Virginia 24153

PH: 540 375.4094
FAX: 540 375.4032



City of Salem Adult Softball

By Laws:

The City of Salem's Adult Softball league is governed by the **"Amateur Softball Association (ASA)"** rules unless otherwise stated in these bylaws.

2014 Rule Changes are highlighted. Updated: April 2014

Leagues	Ages	Game Length	Playing Field	Ball Used
Church Coed	18+	55 minutes	Bases - 70ft rubber - 53ft	AD Starr Spirit .52 COR/300 (subject to change)
Church Open	18+	55 minutes	Bases - 70ft rubber - 53ft	AD Starr Spirit .52 COR/300 (subject to change)
Men's Open	18+	55 minutes	Bases - 70ft rubber - 53ft	AD Starr Spirit .52 COR/300 (subject to change)

Co-Ed Open Leagues

1. All Co-Ed Open teams must have a male pitcher and female catcher.
2. Each team shall have ten (10) players; five (5) males and five (5) females.
3. There must be two (2) of each sex in the outfield and infield positions.
4. Outfielders may not be on the infield surface.
5. Each team must have a male/female pitcher/catcher combination.

Church & Church Co-Ed

1. This league is open to all churches.
2. Players listed on the official team roster must be a member/regular attendee of the church they represent prior to the start of league play.
3. **Team Rosters must be turned in by Monday,**
4. Additions may be made up to your **second** game.
5. Teams must have **three (3)** women on the field at all times.
6. Women are not allowed to pitch, play 1st or 3rd base.

Residency Requirements

There are no residency requirements to participate in any league.

Age Requirements

All players must be eighteen (18) or older prior to the start of the team's first game to participate.

Team Placement

In the best interest of equalizing league play, after a team(s) demonstrates dominance in a division, the Sports Office reserves the right to promote a team into a more competitive division. Depending on the total teams registered in a league, teams may be moved up/down to another division, leagues may also be combined.

Ineligible/Illegal Players

Players cannot play on more than one team **within the same league**. The Sports Office reserves the right to check for illegal players at any time during the season. If a team is found using an illegal player, all games in which that player participated in will be declared a forfeit. Teams found using an illegal player for the second time will be placed on probation for the remainder of the season and forfeit all games played. A third offense and the team is expelled from the league. The person that is found to be an illegal player on a City of Salem softball team will not be allowed to play in the City of Salem for one year.



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Time Limit

An official game will consist of fifty-five minutes, seven (7) innings, or the Slaughter Rule, whichever comes first. The scoreboard will be used as the official time. **Time will start when the umpire signals play ball.** No inning will begin after time has expired on the clock. Innings will be completed if time expires while a team is at bat. If the game is tied at the end of regulation play, the game will be declared a tie. **GAME OVER.**

Uniforms/Shoes

1. All players on each team must wear jerseys that are matching in the base color and have a permanently affixed, non-duplicated numbers on the back. Jerseys without numbers or jerseys with taped, pinned, or handwritten numbers will NOT be allowed. There will be a one game "grace period" for all teams to obtain jerseys. After this "grace period", players not attired as described above will NOT be allowed to participate.
2. No metal cleats will be allowed.

Rosters

Teams will have a limit of 25 players including the Manager. Rosters must be turned in before the first game of the season. NO EXCEPTIONS. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture. Rosters can be completed online at www.salemva.gov

Game Balls

1. **The City of Salem will furnish all game balls.**
2. One new game ball will be provided per team for each game.

Bats

1. Only **ASA** approved bats shall be used. Approved and Non Approved bat list can be found at
a. www.teamusa.org/USA-Softball/Play-ASA/Certified-ASA-Equipment.aspx

Grace Period

No Grace period for any games. Teams must be ready to play at game time.

Ties in Final Standings

If two teams are tied in the final regular season standings, the following tie-breakers will be used:

1. Teams record against each other.
2. Teams run differential against each other.
3. Teams total runs allowed for the season.
4. Coin flip.

On a three-way-tie, the team's record against each other will be taken out.

League Play

1. On deck batter must be in the on-deck circle ready to bat.
2. **Speed-up Rule:** The team that is behind will bat first in the 7th Inning.
3. **Slaughter Rule:** **As per ASA Book 20 after 3, 15 after 4 and 10 after 5.**
4. Teams must have a minimum of nine (9) players to begin a game.

Home Run

League	Limit
Men's and Women's Open	2 per game per team
Church Open/ Coe-Ed Open	2 per game per team
Church Co-Ed	No home runs allowed, Any HR will end that half inning.



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- Once the limit is met, each subsequent home run is an out.

Courtesy Runner

1. Courtesy runner may be used once per inning.
2. Courtesy runner can be any player on the roster.
3. Courtesy runner must be of the same sex.
4. If a courtesy runner is on base when their turn at bat comes up the runner will be replaced with another runner.

Conduct

1. The City of Salem will not tolerate the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages in any park located within the City.
2. Verbal or physical violence directed on other participants, umpires or league officials will not be tolerated. Any individual involved in conduct deemed unsportsmanlike will lose his/her right to participate in any City of Salem leagues for a minimum of one (1) year. Decisions by the Sports Office involving verbal or physical violence are final. Subject to an annual review if requested.
3. The umpires have the authority to remove a player, coach or spectator from a game and/or forfeit the game due to unsportsmanlike conduct. Unsportsmanlike conduct shall include, but not be limited to, profanity, threats of any kind toward the umpires, staff or designate official, fighting (before, during or after the game), any intoxicated condition detected by the umpire before or during the game.

Ejections

1. Any player, coach or manager ejected from a game must meet with the Sports Office prior to playing any further games.
2. If a player or a coach is ejected from a game that person must leave the premises immediately.
3. If player is ejected from their last regular season game, suspension will carry over to next season.

Protests

1. Protests must be made to the umpire before the end of the game by the team manager.
2. The team manager making protest must notify the recreation department within 24 hours in writing.
3. Judgment calls are not protestable.
4. **Protest fee:** \$50.00, which will be returned if protest is upheld.

Postponements

Information on daily game status may be obtained by logging onto www.salemva.gov ('Parks and Recreation' link) or by calling the Sports Office Cancellation Line at 966-6900 after 3:30 p.m.

Schedules

Game schedules and reschedules will be posted online at www.salemva.gov ('Parks and Rec.' link).